

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE VARIOUS
BOARDS OF TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF MENDON,
INCLUDING REPORTS OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
AND
SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
FOR THE
Municipal Year Ending March 5, 1888.

MILFORD, MASS.:
G. M. BILLINGS, PRINTER, GAZETTE OFFICE.
1888.

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TREASURER'S REPORT.

The undersigned, Treasurer of Mendon for the year ending March 1, 1888, respectfully submits account of his doings.

He debits himself with the following assets, viz:—

Amount received of

Treasurer for 1886,	\$1,742 12
Borrowed on Town notes,	900 00
Collector,	6,005 15
Town annals,	13 75
Use of telephone,	23 60
Out-of-town scholars,	7 25
J. C. Wood, license for alley,	2 00
State treasurer, support of pauper,	25 48
Dr. Russell for rent of Pond,	50 00
Auctioneers' licenses,	4 00
Gilbert Gaskill, use of Town Hall,	63 00
G. B. Williams, for book,	4 00
City of Boston, on pauper account,	33 33
State treasurer,	1,044 55
County treasurer, for dog fund,	121 31
State treasurer, school fund,	210 02
Collector for 1886,	75 63
Road commissioners, for plank,	8 88
Horace C. Adams, for error,	1 25
A. W. Gaskill, for apples and plank,	1 00
Use of school room for dances,	18 00
Librarian, for catalogues,	45
	<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> \$10,354 77

He credits himself with the following sums:—

Paid

173 Town orders,	\$5,651 67
Town bond,	1,047 75
Town bond,	740 69
Town notes,	907 05
State tax,	742 50
Coupons,	112 50
	<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/>

\$9,202 16

Leaving a balance in hands of Treasurer, 1,152 61

\$10,354 77

Amount of bonds unpaid,	\$2,500 00
Interest paid on notes and bonds,	207 99

AUSTIN A. TAFT, Treasurer.

Mendon, Feb. 18, 1888.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen respectfully submit the following report of the expenditures of the town for the municipal year ending March 5, 1888.

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Bridget Casey, taxes repaid by vote of the town,	\$3 84
Betsey Wood, taxes repaid by vote of the town,	32 26
Henry A. Aldrich, claims paid by vote of the town,	15 00
Henry A. Aldrich, hay scales,	55 00
G. S. Whitney, labor on hay scales,	12 00
S. F. Towne, plank for hay scales, etc.,	13 08
A. W. Gaskill, labor on hay scales,	11 01
N. G. Daniels, timber for hay scales,	8 95
G. B. Williams, cash paid for use of telephone,	60 00
E. F. Wood, storage of fire extinguisher, May 12, 1887,	12 00
Field Brothers, coal,	12 00
L. Freeman, cash paid for burying calf,	25
Gilbert Gaskill, services night of July 4, 1886,	2 00
Hill Williams, services night of July 4, 1887,	2 00
Gilbert Gaskill, labor on basin,	1 00
A. W. Judson, returning 5 deaths,	1 25
Harris & Perrigo, gutter and conductor, library building,	7 50
W. A. Gaskill, labor on old cemetery,	5 00
Fred Swasey, examination and estimates,	10 00
W. Williams, sawing wood, etc., for library,	1 75
I. O. Rhodes, kerosene for library,	50
H. C. Adams, labor on hearse house,	2 00
H. C. Adams, returning deaths,	6 75
A. W. Gaskill, cash paid for work on tomb,	50
A. W. Gaskill, labor on well,	1 00
E. L. Smith, services night of July 4, 1887,	2 00
David Adams, cash paid for express and sundries,	3 86
E. T. Bates, extinguishing forest fire,	1 00
H. C. Adams, cash paid for extinguishing forest fire,	75
A. W. Gaskill, cash paid and labor on basin,	4 20
G. B. Williams, cash paid for sundries,	3 33
	<hr/>
	\$291 78

FUEL AND SUNDRIES FOR TOWN HALL.

Field Brothers, coal,	\$22 50
L. A. Cook, coal, 3 bills,	56 38
E. A. Bates, wood,	2 00
Gilbert Gaskill, care of hall to April 1, 1887,	39 00
Gilbert Gaskill, cash paid for sundries,	17 27
A. W. Judson, setting glass,	1 25
Hill Williams, stock and labor on settees and black-boards,	5 94
Bartlett & Ellis, hardware and stove-pipe,	7 05
G. B. Williams, cash paid masons and team for same,	14 60
A. W. Gaskill, labor and sundries, plastering, etc.,	3 95
S. F. Towne, admx., kerosene,	1 35
A. W. Gaskill, labor and cash paid on basement,	1 70
	<hr/>
	\$172 99

SERVICES OF TOWN OFFICERS.

Wm. J. Taft, Supt. of schools, 1886-7,	\$75 00
C. D. Albro, " " 1887-8, in part,	50 00
Gilbert Gaskill, lockup keeper to April 1, 1887,	5 00
A. W. Judson, auditor 1887,	2 50
A. W. Judson, sealer of weights and measures,	1 00
A. W. Gaskill, assessor taxes of 1887,	38 75
James Quigley, " " "	33 50
M. M. Aldrich, " " "	40 00
Martin Thayer, constable to July, 1887, to admr.,	5 00
L. Freeman, collecting taxes, list 1886,	65 00
E. L. Smith, constable to March 5, 1888,	10 00
David Adams, town clerk and registrar,	16 95
Austin A. Taft, treasurer,	35 00
L. Freeman, selectman,	20 00
A. W. Gaskill, "	22 00
G. B. Williams, "	54 80
	<hr/>
	\$474 50

PRINTING.

G. M. Billings, town reports, 1887,	\$36 00
Cook & Sons, collector's notices and bills,	4 00
Cook & Sons, cattle commissioner's notices,	1 50
G. M. Billings, voting list,	7 00
	<hr/>
	\$48 50

MILITARY AID PAID UNDER CHAP. 252, ACTS OF 1879.

Michael Foley,	\$89 05
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STATE AID PAID PENSIONERS, ETC., CHAPTER 301,
ACTS OF 1879.

John Curley,	\$54 00
James McKenna,	56 00
Rufus Hazard,	48 00
Charles H. Burnham,	38 00
Olive E. Pickering,	48 00
Abel G. Weatherhead,	35 00
Michael Foley,	9 00
Catherine Foley,	24 00
David A. Kingman,	32 00
	<hr/>
	\$344 00

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Paid School Committee, by seven town orders drawn in their favor,	\$2,363 00
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REPAIRS OF ROADS.

Paid Road Commissioners, by six town orders drawn in their favor,	\$1,147 85
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SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid Overseers of Poor, by five town orders drawn in their favor,	\$600 00
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THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Paid Trustees, two orders,	\$120 00
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RECAPITULATION.

Incidentals,	\$291 78
Fuel and sundries for Town Hall,	172 99
Town officers,	474 50
State Aid, Chapter 301,	344 00
State Aid, Chapter 252,	89 05
Printing,	48 50
Support of schools,	2,363 00
Roads,	1,147 85
Poor,	600 00
Library,	120 00
	<hr/>
	\$5,651 67

The Selectmen also report that the liabilities of the town known to them are as follows:—

Due on bills against the town, estimated,	\$55 00	
Due town officers, estimated,	100 00	
Due school teachers, estimated,	120 00	
Due on town bonds,	2,500 00	
	<hr/>	\$2,775 00

The available assets, so far as known, are as follows:—

Due from collector, list of 1887,	\$78 02	
Due from state, aid to soldiers, etc., Chap. 301,	320 00	
Due " " " " 252,	44 53	
Due from Wm. H. Aldrich, use of hay scales,	13 32	
Cash in hands of treasurer,	1,152 61	
	<hr/>	\$1,608 48

Net indebtedness of the town, \$1,166 52

Respectfully Submitted,

G. B. WILLIAMS,	} Selectmen of Mendon.
A. W. GASKILL,	
L. FREEMAN,	

Mendon, Feb. 18, 1888.

TOWN GRANTS 1887.

Schools,	\$1,500 00
School books,	200 00
Roads,	1,200 00
Debt,	1,000 00
Interest,	300 00
Library,	150 00
Poor,	600 00
Incidentals,	300 00
	<hr/>
	\$5,250 00

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

LIBERTY FREEMAN, COLLECTOR FOR 1886.

Dr.	
Balance uncollected, Feb. 19, 1887,	\$77 10
Interest received,	4 62
	<hr/>
	\$81 72
Cr.	
By cash paid treasurer,	\$75 63
Abatements,	6 09
	<hr/>
	\$81 72

LIBERTY FREEMAN, COLLECTOR FOR 1887.

Dr.	
Taxes committed for collection,	\$6,551 14
Additional assessment,	3 38
Interest received,	34 09
	<hr/>
	\$6,588 61
Cr.	
By cash paid treasurer,	\$6,005 15
Paid county tax,	441 00
Abatements,	64 44
	<hr/>
	\$6,510 59
Balance uncollected, Feb. 18, 1888,	\$78 02

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

The undersigned Road Commissioners respectfully submit the following report for the year ending March 5, 1888:—

The Commissioners charge themselves with the following sums:—

Cash in hand of Commissioners, March 7, 1887,	\$ 5 79
Cash on town orders,	1,147 85
	<hr/>
	\$1,153 64

They credit themselves by paying the following bills:—

E. T. Bates, labor and cash paid out, 2 bills,	\$236 52
Geo. Nelson, fixing road scraper,	5 00
A. E. Brown, labor and cash paid out, 2 bills,	346 49
L. P. Cummings, labor, 2 bills,	95 10
P. A. Wheeler, " 2 bills,	94 50
G. A. Staples, " "	40 58
S. H. Taft, " cash paid out,	103 79
F. H. Wood, " 2 bills,	77 46
O. W. Hill, " "	15 57
A. Southwick, " "	1 35
R. Hazard, " 2 bills,	21 45
P. Morris, " "	31 50
S. B. Taft, " 2 bills,	57 45
Cash for plank, paid Town Treasurer,	8 88
A. W. Gaskill, labor and cash paid out,	14 25
	<hr/>
	\$1,149 80
Balance in hands of Commissioners,	\$3 84

SAMUEL H. TAFT, } Road Commissioners
ALONZO E. BROWN, } of Mendon.

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF POOR.

The Overseers of Poor submit the following report for the municipal year ending March 5, 1888:—

John W. Barry, Mary Kirby, Mary C. Taft, Edna Allen, Edna French, Michael Foley, Janie Briggs, Jennie Davenport, Francis R. Scisco and wife (having a settlement in Mendon), Orrie Cheney (belonging to Milford), the families of Charles H. Burnham (to Upton), Joseph H. Wood (to Uxbridge), Catherine Peterson Fostream (to Boston), Samuel L. Taylor (to Yarmouth), James Campbell (having no settlement in the state), have been wholly or partially supported.

The Overseers charge themselves with the receipt of the following named funds belonging to the town:—

Balance from last year,	\$	65
Six town orders,	600	00
Dennis Halloran,	30	00
John Barry for John W. Barry,	69	07
Town of Uxbridge,	32	19
Town of Yarmouth,	53	45
Town of Milford,	2	50
Town of Upton,	4	00
	—————	\$791 86

The Overseers credit themselves with paying the following amounts:—

FOR SUPPORT OF	
John W. Barry,	\$141 49
Mary Kirby,	80 75
Mary C. Taft,	84 00
Edna Allen,	78 00
Edna French,	5 08
Michael Foley,	5 00
Janie Briggs,	47 70
Jennie Davenport,	83 00
Francis R. Scisco and wife,	56 30
Orrie Cheney,	2 50
Charles H. Burnham,	4 00
Joseph H. Wood,	18 00
Catherine Peterson Fostream,	52 33
Samuel L. Taylor,	53 45
James Campbell,	25 48

Gilbert Gaskill, care of tramps,	\$ 7 05
L. Freeman, postage stamps,	82
L. Freeman, services as Overseer of Poor,	33 00
Gilbert Gaskill, " "	7 00
Edward Dixon, " "	6 00
	<hr/> \$790 95

Balance in hands of Overseers, \$0 91

From the whole amount paid for support of poor, \$790 95

Deduct what was due for the support of the
paupers to March 7, 1887, \$33 75

What has been paid by John Barry for John
W. Barry, 69 07

What has been paid for Town of Milford, 2 50

" " " " Upton, 4 00

" " " " Uxbridge, 18 00

" " " City of Boston, 52 33

" " " Town of Yarmouth, 53 45

" " " Commonwealth, 25 48

\$258 58

\$532 37

Add what will be due for support of paupers to
March 5, 1888, 42 03

Cost of supporting the poor for the year ending
March 5, 1888, \$574 40

Respectfully submitted,

LIBERTY FREEMAN,	} Overseers of Poor.
GILBERT GASKILL,	
EDWARD DIXON,	

Mendon, Feb. 18, 1888.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

I have examined the accounts of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Overseers of the Poor, Road Commissioners, School Committee, and Collector of Taxes of the Town of Mendon, and that of the Treasurer of the Taft Public Library, for the past municipal year, and find them correctly kept, and with proper vouchers.

JULIUS A. GEORGE,
Auditor.

Mendon, Feb. 21, 1888.

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK.

TOWN OF MENDON TO DAVID ADAMS, DR.

To express paid on Mass. Reports and other public documents,	\$2 50	
To postage paid on elections, registration and other returns during the year,	56	
To cash paid to Standard Cancellling Ballot Box Co., for ink,	55	
To cash paid for stationery,	25	
	—	\$3 86
To services as clerk of the Board of Registrars,	\$3 00	
To services, state election and Clerks' meeting, (two days),	4 00	
To recording, indexing and returning 9 births,	4 50	
To recording, indexing and returning 5 marriages,	75	
To recording, indexing and returning 27 deaths,	4 70	
	—————	\$16 95
		\$20 81
Received for Dog Licenses during 1887 :—		
Male dogs, 63,	\$126 00	
Female dogs, 6,	30 00	
	—————	\$156 00
Less Clerk's fees,		13 80
		—————
Balance paid County Treasurer,		\$142 20

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN 1887.

DATE.	NAME OF CHILD.	NAME OF PARENTS.
Jan. 15	Adrian Martin,	Joseph and Geneive Martin.
24	Linda Mayburn Bates,	Erwin A. and Jennie Bates.
April 26	Carl Edwin Campbell,	James and Lucy Campbell.
May 1	Herbert Edgar Wheeler,	Frederick M. and Arabella Wheeler.
22	Salina Brooks,	Samuel and Salina Brooks.
June 9	Mary Roxanna Young,	John and Phœbe Young.
19	Anna Eliza Holt,	Charles A. and Olive H. Holt,
Sept. 15	Bertha Maria Greene,	Embert R. and Miranda F. Greene.
Dec. 29	Mabel Louise Cromb,	George B. and Cromb.

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN 1887.

DATE.	NAME OF GROOM AND BRIDE.	RESIDENCE.
Feb. 9 1887.	Oscar F. Thurston,	Hopedale.
"	Mercie J. Goodnow,	Mendon.
March 13	Caleb V. A. Smith,	Mendon.
"	Sarah A. Sanford,	Uxbridge.
May 16	Albert Waldo Darling,	Mendon.
"	Abbie Ford Dudley,	Mendon.
May 23	Walter Scott,	Blackstone.
"	Mary E. Pierson,	Mendon.
Nov. 23	Frederick J. Dwinnell,	Westboro.
"	Sylvia Anna Holbrook,	Mendon.

DEATHS REGISTERED IN 1887.

DATE.	NAME OF DECEASED.	AGE.	RESIDENCE.
Jan. 2, 1887.	Lawrence Wilbur.	70 years.	Mendon.
Mar. 1, "	John Broughey,	48 "	"
1, "	Susie A. Albro,	1 "	"
3, "	Fred H. Brown,	14 "	"
17, "	Nathan Towne,	48 "	"
April 7, "	Moses Aldrich,	53 "	"
17, "	Lucy N. Scisco,	77 "	"
28, "	Mary Payson,	77 "	"
June 19, "	Martin Thayer,	49 "	"
July 11, "	Sally Whipple,	64 "	"
29, "	Sarah J. Spofford,	45 "	"
Aug. 1, "	Michael Casey,	55 "	"
8, "	Nina Louise Thayer,	2 "	"
9, "	Joseph Martin,	56 "	"
12, "	Myra Taft,	50 "	"
17, "	Salley V. Allen,	74 "	"
22, "	Michael Foley,	52 "	"
25, "	Abby Ballou,	49 "	"
26, "	James H. Cunnabell,	70 "	"
27, "	Foster Howard Wood,	$\frac{1}{4}$ "	"
Sept. 4, "	Robert B. Bennett,	84 "	"
6, "	Lucinda Jennison,	82 "	"
Nov. 6, "	Brigham Spaulding,	83 "	"
16, "	Mary E. Morris,	27 "	"
17, "	Enos T. Albee,	73 "	"
Dec. 5, "	Andrew W. Judson,	67 "	"
30, "	Benjamin Bates,	71 "	"

DAVID ADAMS, Town Clerk.

Mendon, Feb. 18, 1888.

TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The Trustees take pleasure in reporting the Library in a prosperous and satisfactory condition, as will more fully appear by the Librarian's report. The increase in circulation is especially gratifying. They realize that much of the success of the Library is due to the faithful labors of the Librarian, and deem the town fortunate that her services have been secured for the ensuing year. The books were examined February 8, 1888, and all were accounted for, and found to be in as good condition as could be expected. The Library was re-opened February 11. The Board extend the thanks of the citizens to all who have donated books, magazines or pamphlets to the Library during the past year. The Committee of the Trustees, having charge of the Annals of Mendon, have sold five copies and exchanged fifteen copies for other books, which have been added to the Library.

The Trustees recommend an appropriation of one hundred and fifty dollars for the use of the Library the ensuing year.

JULIUS A. GEORGE,
HORACE C. ADAMS,
GUSTAVUS B. WILLIAMS,
C. D. ALBRO,
F. H. WOOD,
Trustees Taft Public Library.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY:—

Agreeably to the by-laws, I herewith submit my report for the library year, ending February 4, 1888.

The library opened for the delivery of books Feb. 12, 1887. The circulation for the year was 4,203—145 more than last year. The library now contains 2,492 volumes, of which 138 have been added the past year. Of the latter, 82 were purchased and 56 donated. The books donated came from the following sources: Hon. G. F. Hoar, 21; Hon. F. D. Ely, 13; Hon. Henry Pierce, 5; Rev. Chas. J. Staples, 6; Mrs. N. L. Hooper, 8; Mrs. I. V. Pond, 1; Maverick National Bank, 1; Department of Interior, 1. Pamphlets were also received from various sources.

The circulation was as follows: Agriculture, 38; Biography,

119 ; History, 257 ; Travel, 188 ; Educational, 54 ; Poetry, 50 ; Miscellaneous, 128 ; Novels, 2,961 ; Periodicals, 408.

Largest weekly circulation, 102 ; smallest weekly circulation, 60 ; average weekly circulation, 82.

Received from fines and other sources \$8.52. The only book lost since the library was opened has been found and returned. According to the seventh rule, the books were called in for the annual examination on the first Saturday of February, and every book was returned at that time. Additional shelf room is greatly needed.

MARY E. DUDLEY,
Librarian.

Mendon, February 8, 1888.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Taft Public Library, for the year ending February 8, 1888 :

DR.

To balance from last account,	\$ 13 88
Cash received on 2 orders of Selectmen,	120 00
" Mary E. Dudley, for cards, fines, etc.,	8 52
	<hr/>
	\$142 40

CR.

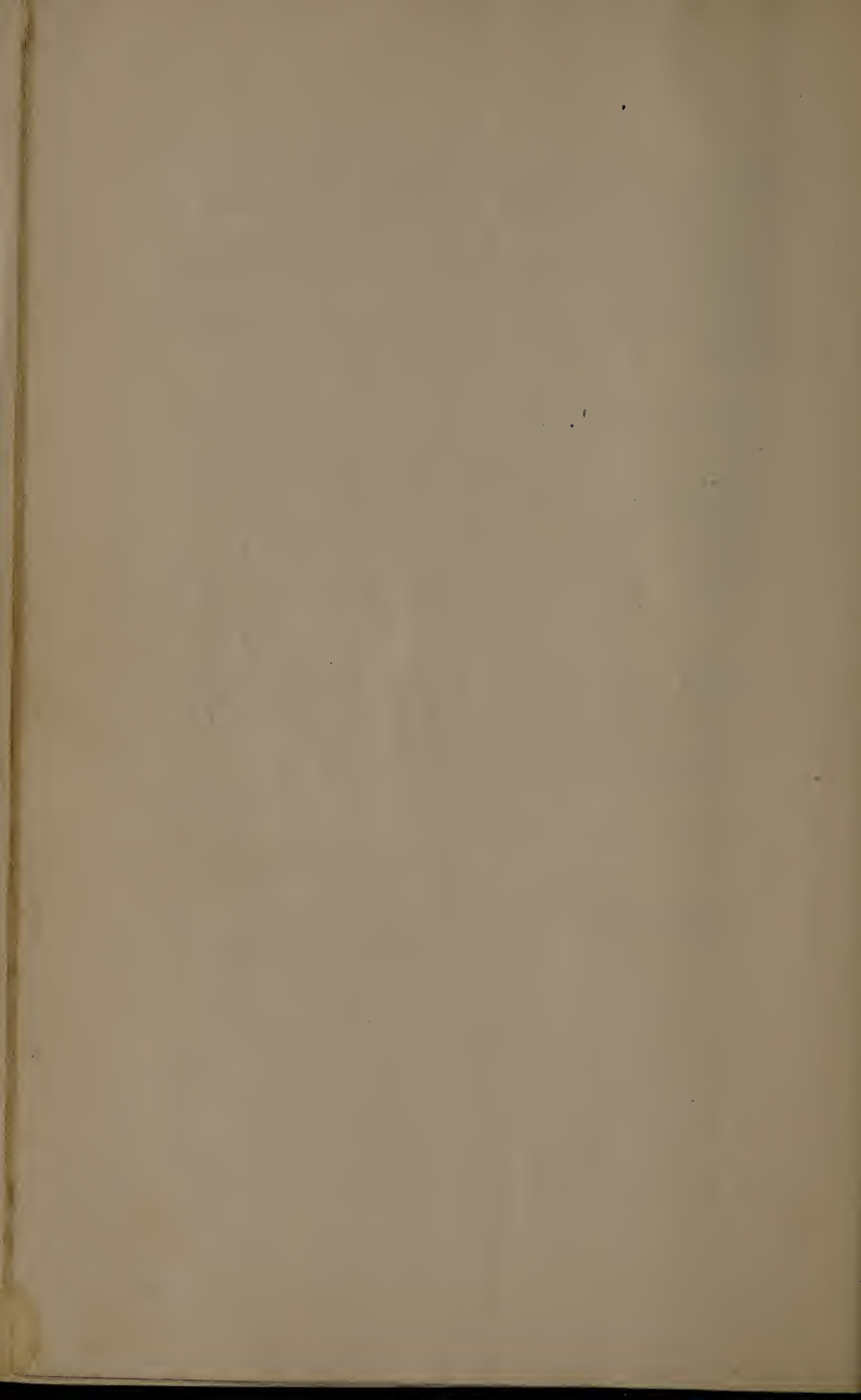
Cash paid Austin Howard, for books,	\$12 00
" Clarke & Carruth, for books,	63 17
" F. M. Marcy, for binding,	8 53
" Mary E. Dudley, for expressage, etc.,	4 00
" Mary E. Dudley, services as Librarian,	50 00
Cash on hand,	4 70
	<hr/>
	\$142 40

Respectfully submitted,
HORACE C. ADAMS,
Treasurer.

Mendon, February 16, 1888.

Examined, found correct and with proper vouchers.

G. B. WILLIAMS, for Auditors.



REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
AND
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
OF THE
TOWN OF MENDON,
FOR THE
SCHOOL YEAR 1887-8.

MILFORD, MASS.:
G. M. BILLINGS, PRINTER, GAZETTE OFFICE.
1888.

Names and Residences of Teachers

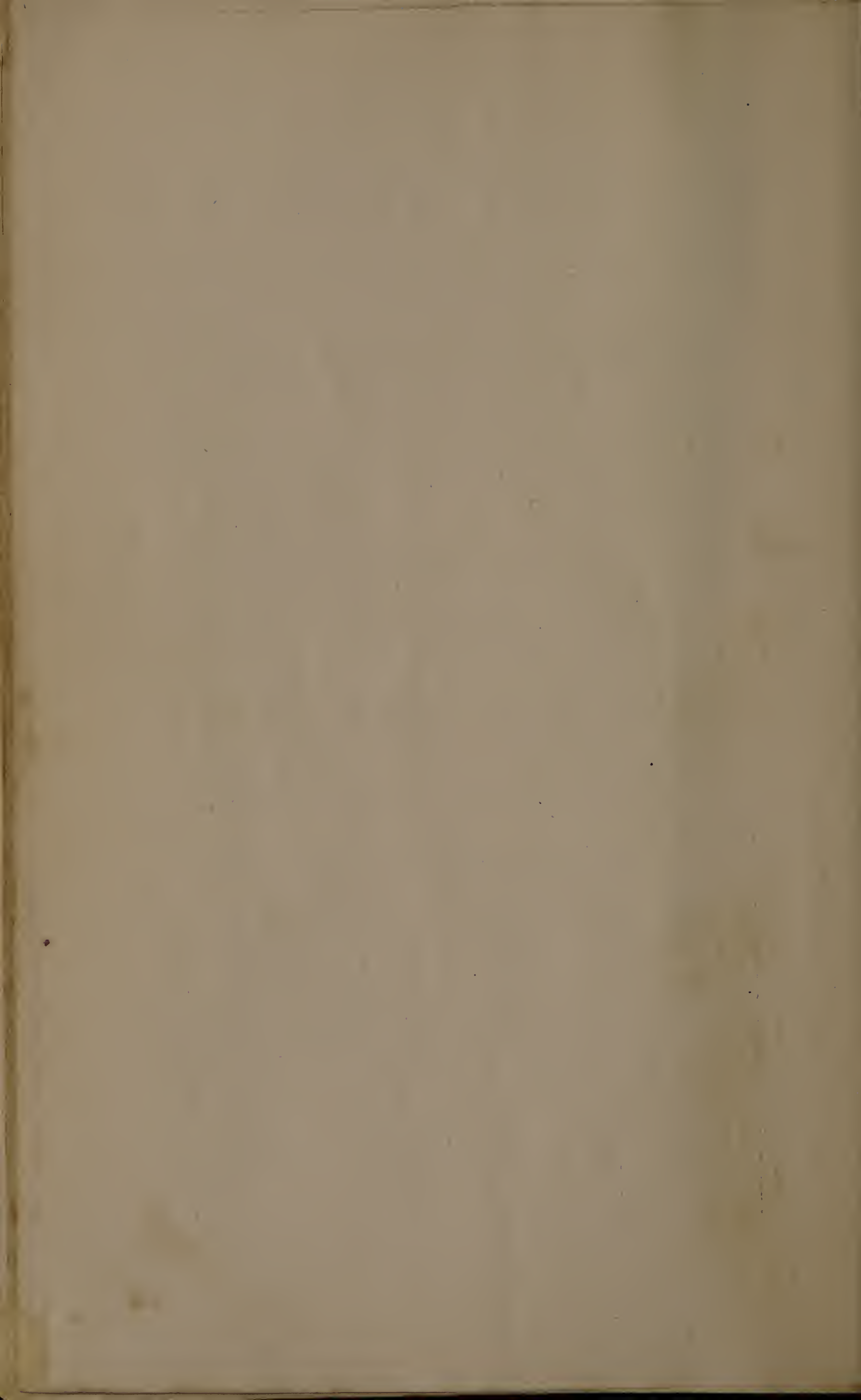
Employed in the Public Schools of Mendon for the School Year ending March 1, 1888:—

Mr. Hill Williams,	Mendon.
Mr. James Nichols,	Millville.
Miss Mary E. Dudley,	Mendon.
Miss Mary L. Aldrich,	Mendon.
Miss M. Elsie Hill,	Mendon.
Miss Annie W. Gaskill,	Mendon.
Mrs. Mary A. Barrows,	Mendon.
Miss Jennie L. Goodrich,	Milford.
Miss Eva A. Rich,	Blackstone.
Miss H. Josie Davis,	Blackstone.

LIST OF TEXT-BOOKS IN USE.

Arithmetic—White's. Algebra—Greenleaf's. Chemistry—Hooker's. Civil Government—Townsend's. Drawing—Eclectic. Dictionary—Webster's, Worcester's. English Literature—Swinton's. Geography—Harper's. Grammar—Harvey's. Geometry—Wentworth's. History—Stone's, Scott's. Latin—Harkness'. Physics—Norton's. Physical Geography—Warren's. Physiology—Brown's, Barnes', Eclectic. Penmanship—Eclectic. Rhetoric—Kellogg's. Reader—Franklin. Speller—McGuffey's.

SCHOOLS.	TEACHERS.	Terms.	Number months school.	Number scholars.	Average membership.	Per cent. attendance.	Per cent attendance for the year.	No. Tardy Marks.	Number scholars not absent or tardy.	No. Scholars over 15 years.	Number between 8 and 14 years.	Number visits to school.	Wages of teachers per month.	Amount of wages.
HIGH.	Hill Williams.....	1	3	23	20.1	87		12	7	17	6	21	\$50	\$ 330.00
	".....	2	3	25						19	6		60	
	James Nichols.....	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	12.5	70		13	1	4	14	16	32	
GRAMMAR.	".....	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	20	15.2	76		11	7	5	15	17	36	261.00
	".....	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	21	17.3	85	77	10	2	5	13	27	36	
	Jennie L. Goodrich.....	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	17	15.3	88		15	3	0	13	25	24	
EAST.	M. Elsie Hill.....	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	16.4	91		3	5	1	13	37	24	60.00
	".....	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	19	16.3	86	92	11	4	1	13	23	24	
	Mrs. Mary A. Barrows.....	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	11	90		0	9	0	5	21	24	
SOUTH.	".....	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	11.5	96		0	7	0	6	13	28	200.00
	".....	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	10.3	94	93	1	3	0	7	13	28	
	Annie W. Gaskill.....	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	10.5	81		9	3	0	11	11	28	
ALBEEVILLE.	".....	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	9.1	65		19	1	0	12	6	28	210.00
	".....	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	6.7	56	67	24	2	0	11	14	28	
	M. Elsie Hill.....	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	7.6	97		0	5	0	8	20	24	
WEST.	Eva A. Rich.....	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	8.4	93		2	3	0	8	14	24	54.00
	".....	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	7.4	93	94	14	0	0	8	14	24	
	H. Josie Davis.....	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	7.4	93		0	5	0	8	20	24	
NORTH.	Mary L. Aldrich.....	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	26	20.7	80		8	2	0	19	26	28	210.00
	".....	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	31	25.6	82	82	15	11	0	23	30	28	
	".....	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	24	20.4	85	82	10	5	0	18	16	28	
PRIMARY.	Mary E. Dudley.....	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	39	29	74		14	8	0	19	23	28	214.50
	".....	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	42	39	93		16	18	0	22	21	28	
	".....	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	43	35.2	82	83	12	7	0	27	17	30	



REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The following report of the school expenditures for the municipal year is respectfully submitted:—

Dr.		
Seven town orders,	\$2,363 00	
Cash in Home National Bank,	116 61	
	\$2,479 61	
Cr.		
Teachers' wages, fuel and care of rooms,	\$1,888 90	
School books and supplies,	213 91	
Incidentals,	264 44	
Cash in Home National Bank,	112 36	
	\$2,479 61	

TEACHERS' WAGES, FUEL AND CARE OF ROOMS.

J. Q. Hayward, old bill,	\$123 00	
A. May Townes, " .	40 00	
	\$163 00	
Hill Williams,	\$210 00	
James Nichols,	261 00	
Mary E. Dudley,	214 50	
Mary L. Aldrich,	210 00	
Mary A. Barrows,	200 00	
Annie W. Gaskill,	210 00	
M. Elsie Hill,	174 00	
Eva Rich,	66 00	
Jennie L. Goodrich,	60 00	
W. W. Nelson, for fuel,	18 00	
Frank H. Wood, " "	24 50	
Liberty Freeman, " "	2 40	
Frederick Bates, " "	17 25	
J. G. Barrows, fuel and fitting,	9 75	
Austin A. Taft, " "	20 50	
A. T. Dixon, care of fires,	6 00	
J. G. Barrows, " "	2 00	
Mrs. J. G. Barrows, care of fires,	2 00	
Frederick Bates, " "	1 00	
Annie W. Gaskill, " "	3 00	

W. E. Dixon, care of coal fire, etc.,	\$2 50	
Dixon boys, for sawing wood,	8 00	
" 4 barrels of shavings,	50	
Ann Quigley, for cleaning rooms, No. 2,	3 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,725 90

INCIDENTALS.

E. L. Smith, for use of well,	\$ 7 00	
H. A. Aldrich, postage,	2 50	
C. A. Copeland, supplies,	6 79	
Frederick Bates, " and labor,	2 20	
Harrison Hume, " "	3 53	
Adams & Ingraham, " "	2 80	
Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., supplies,	6 72	
King & Merrill. supplies, globe and dictionary,	21 87	
Frank H. Wood, " and labor,	11 75	
" " Albeeville school,	105 43	
A. P. Scribner,	10 30	
H. W. Brown, " on three clocks,	2 00	
A. W. Judson, " and labor,	2 62	
Edward Dixon, as school-book agent, etc.,	35 00	
" fare to Boston,	2 00	
J. G. Barrows, cash paid,	75	
F. M. Ambrose, for dictionary,	7 50	
Walter E. Ballou, labor,	1 40	
W. E. Dixon, labor and for census, No. 2,	4 50	
Bartlett & Ellis, supplies,	2 10	
Hill Williams. labor and supplies,	1 10	
J. F. Hickey, supplies,	6 00	
A. Lovell & Co., " "	7 78	
D. Appleton & Co., supplies,	10 80	
	<hr/>	\$264 44

EDWARD DIXON, Treasurer of School Committee.

FRANK H. WOOD, Chairman,
EDWARD DIXON, Secretary,
W. W. NELSON,
J. G. BARROWS,
FREDERICK BATES,
School Committee.

SCHOOL BOOK AGENT'S REPORT.

TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF MENDON:—

Gentlemen: I herewith submit the school book account for the year.

DR.

To Books and supplies on hand,	\$ 57 08	
To Books and supplies purchased this year,	213 91	
	<hr/>	\$270 99

CR.

By books and supplies furnished:—

High school,	\$92 52	
Grammar school,	51 53	
Primary school,	21 75	
North school,	34 40	
South school,	23 99	
East school,	9 44	
West school,	8 14	
Albeeville school,	8 36	
C. D. Albro, M. D., Physiologies,	15 00	
Practice paper,	60	
Books and supplies on hand,	5 26	
	<hr/>	\$270 99

EDWARD DIXON, Agent.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RESOURCES.

Town appropriation,	\$1500 00	
Income from state school fund,	210 02	
Income from dog tax,	121 31	
Received for out of town scholars,	7 25	
Balance in treasury, last report,	81 21	
	<hr/>	\$1,919 79

EXPENDED.

Teachers' wages, fuel, and care of rooms,	\$1,725 90	
Teachers' wages unpaid,	180 00	
Apparatus from state school fund,	10 80	
Balance in treasury,	3 09	
	<hr/>	\$1,919 79

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

Your Superintendent begs leave to respectfully submit his annual report of the public schools, to the citizens of Mendon:—

Having recently come into your midst, and being unacquainted with the teachers, and unfamiliar with the condition and standard of the schools in the past, much time has been necessarily consumed in becoming familiar with the condition and workings of each school, to determine their individual needs, and to know how to accomplish the most work in the best manner, in the short time allotted us for work. I observed in some of the schools a great lack of discipline, and a want of thoroughness in the pupils' work, the latter being due, not necessarily, nor altogether, to the fault of the teachers of the preceding year, but undoubtedly due, in a great measure, to the fact of not being started right in their early training. The old maxim, "As the twig is bent so the tree's inclined," proves true in a forcible manner in connection with the pupils of our schools. The impressions which a child receives from the teacher on entering school for the first time, and during the first term of their school life, and the instructions and training, or the lack of proper instructions and want of training—for the latter will often cling to the child more closely than the former—of that teacher, will follow the child all through its school life, and doubtless beyond that, even all through their after walks in life. How important, then, it is that children should have teachers who will start them right and give them the right training in the first part of their school life.

What care, what discretion, what keen foresight should those have whose duty it is to procure teachers for the first training of our children in the schools; not to secure the services of those who simply desire to teach, or from the necessity of earning something, or who make teaching a stepping-stone—I was about to say, to something higher; is there any vocation higher than that of the true teacher?—to some other avenue in life, or who will teach for less wages, but in order to secure the very best teachers, not those who have intellectual attainments only, but who also have an aptitude for teaching, who love the work, and one of the best qualifications, as well as necessary, those who

love children. And in order to accomplish all this, how important that the parents, and those who have the financial part of our schools in their hands, be so impressed with the importance and the value of giving to their children proper educators and right training, and of the necessity of providing sufficient means whereby the very best teachers can be secured, for a fair and reasonable compensation, and thus be enabled to retain the best teachers term after term, and also to increase the number of weeks' schooling in the year. One of the greatest detriments to our schools is the constant change of teachers which occurs, and which seems to be, but which ought not to be, necessary in a majority of cases. There has been but little cause for change in teachers during the past year, but where it has been necessary, such changes, in nearly every case, if not in every one, have been attended by good results, and, in some cases, a very marked improvement in the condition, character and progress of such schools. The present arrangement which exists in relation to Superintendent and Committee, in connection with the duties of each, which are so much divided between them, causes some confliction which cannot necessarily be avoided under existing circumstances, and is a detriment to the best workings of the schools. If the Superintendent could receive a salary which would enable him to devote more time and attention to school work, and assume the burden of the duties of such office, a greater amount of, and very much better work could be accomplished in a given time.

Most of the schools are in good condition, and some of them in excellent condition, and as far as I am able to judge, they are in much better condition for good work the coming year than they were at the beginning of this year. Many of the teachers have labored hard, and have accomplished much and efficient work in their respective schools, and some of them have had hard, up-hill work and many obstacles to surmount and many difficulties to contend with, which has required great perseverance and fortitude on their part; but by persistent effort they have risen above them all.

We are gratified to see that much attention has been given to some of the common branches, which are much neglected so often by many teachers. Writing has received good attention, and in many cases good progress has been made and, as a general thing, the books quite neatly kept. In some cases a fine taste for drawing has been manifested. Reading has received good attention, as a general thing, but this is one of our most neglected branches in the common schools, and should receive still greater and more marked attention at the hands of our teachers. It is not sufficient that there is the right quantity of reading, nor that a good variety of the best reading in quality is furnished our teachers, but it requires to be taught, not alone in a mechanical manner, (for that produces too many parrot-like, expressionless readers,) but to be thoroughly taught, as any other branch is

taught. Much thorough systematic drilling, tact and energy, and a good ear is requisite on the part of the teacher. It may be that as fine and delicately trained an ear for reading is as necessary on the part of the teacher as is required in music, in order to teach reading well. In order for a pupil to become a *good* reader it is necessary, in the first place, for that pupil to have such subjects placed before him to read as he understands, or can be made to understand, corresponding to his ability to grasp the subject. If he does not understand it, or if the ideas are beyond his comprehension, no amount of drilling, or of repetition, will make him a good reader, for his reading will be expressionless, lifeless, and without the understanding of, and the ability to convey the author's meaning and the expression. While it may be called reading, it is only repetition, and the teacher has labored almost in vain and failed to teach reading. It is necessary, then, that the teacher herself should be thoroughly imbued with the idea and the spirit of the subject before she attempts to teach it, for by so doing she can save much lost labor, there will be much better economy of time, and she can save a vast amount of labor and time spent in drilling on the proper pauses in reading; for when the child grasps the idea completely, so as to give a clear understanding and proper expression, he will read naturally and the correct pauses will take care of themselves, just as well as in one's speaking.

The attention of the teachers has been called to the morals of the children during intermission, and especially upon the playground. There is much need of this, as there is a lack of good morals, especially the choice of language, about the school-grounds, and it is not only necessary, and the duty of the teacher, but very important that the teachers should have a careful and closer oversight of the children during the intermissions. The evil of profanity, we fear, must be admitted to be an increasing one, especially among children, and we have observed how astonishingly and sadly prevalent this habit is among school-children, and among those of a very tender age. It is an evil to be sadly deplored, and one which our teachers and school boards should earnestly strive to uproot. This could be more easily prevented in connection with the Centre schools, as well as an advantage to these schools in many other respects, if a uniform arrangement was made in connection with these schools, so as to have the teacher in the higher department have a general oversight and supervision of all the schools in session in the building.

Another item of some importance, though perhaps not to the progress of the schools, is a lack of hitching-posts, which are much needed at nearly all of the schools.

The West and Albeeville schools are both small, and if one of these schools—perhaps the West—should be closed, and the scholars transported to the other school, it would be a decided advantage to the scholars of both schools, better for the teacher,

and the town could save about half the expense that would be required to keep the closed school in session.

A full report cannot be given, as the High school is still in session. It would be much more satisfactory if the terms of school were so arranged as to have all the schools closed before the printing of the report. There should be some system arranged and a basis established, which is very much needed, whereby the pupils in the lower and mixed schools could be advanced to, and prepared for entering the Grammar school, and a corresponding arrangement for the pupils of the Grammar school to enter the High school.

A very unpleasant, deplorable, and very much to be regretted state of affairs has occurred in some of our schools during the past year. I refer to the matter of parents taking sides against the teacher in behalf of the child, interfering with the discipline of the school, censuring the teacher, and setting themselves in array against the proper restraint and the wholesome discipline of the school, tacitly upholding the child in disobedience and his wilfulness, and encouraging him to place himself at variance with the teacher's authority, thereby demeaning themselves and injuring the teacher's influence and wholesome restraint in the school. We are often brought face to face with the stern and somewhat sad but irresistible fact that the fault of the parent is thrown upon the teacher's shoulders; i. e., the proper training and discipline which the child should have received from the hands of the parent, but which the parent has winked at and neglected, teaching him to be kind, polite, and obedient to parental authority would teach him to exhibit the same traits of character when brought in contact with the teacher's authority, and hence would not compel the teacher to perform double duty by having to assume the parent's as well as her own duty; nay, worse, for she too often is not only compelled to do what has been neglected to be done at home, but also to reform him, and in order to do this it is expected of her that she will administer a sufficient amount of wholesome correction to accomplish this, in consequence of which she is severely censured, criticised, and perhaps persecuted, to which, if she succumbs only in part, her influence and authority in that school is liable to be destroyed. One or two cases have occurred which are a shame and a disgrace to the parties, and which should be promptly dealt with.

There is great need of better accommodations for our High school. Either the room where the school is held should be thoroughly repaired and made into a schoolroom with suitable seats and desks for the pupils, and abandoned for use as a hall, or, what would be far better, to purchase or build a building more suitable and more in keeping with the requirements and demands of the character of such a school. The pupils of this school are compelled to do what is not required of the pupils of any other school in town, and what should not be required of any class of pupils whatever, and more especially of the class of pupils who

attend this school; i. e., to go to a large, commodious hall where there is no suitable arrangement for them, and with scarcely any accommodations furnished them, other than that of a room to meet in. The lower part of this building is very much in need of repairs. The Grammar school was closed for several days during the winter term because the room was unsuitable for use. A suitable provision should be made in regard to the out-buildings, to put them and to keep them in good condition, suitable for the visitation of both sexes separately. A separation and division should be made by building a high, suitable fence between the boys' and girls' departments, for their protection in passing to and fro. The basement of the building is in a bad, unsuitable and unhealthy condition, and needs prompt attention. It should be cleansed, disinfected, and cemented or concreted, and prevented from being made a nuisance of, as has been done heretofore.

TEACHERS.

Ten different teachers, two male and eight female teachers, have been employed in the schools during the year. One teacher has taught in the town continuously the past six years, one for the past three years, and one for about a year and a half. Two of these have previously taught in the town, one for two years and one two years and a half, making five and three and a half years in the town, respectively. Six of the number are residents of the town; four were inexperienced teachers, the others having had two or more years' experience. Of the others, one was from Milford, two from Blackstone, and one from Millville. In six of the schools the teacher has taught throughout the year, in the other two changes were necessary or desirable, so that one school has had three different teachers during the year, and two the same term, which has been very detrimental to that school. The teachers have generally manifested a good degree of interest, and many of them a love for the work. Some of them have worked hard and faithfully and have seen a good result from their efforts. They have been enabled to instil into their pupils a desire to work for the love of work, and not for the love of reward, the latter, which to say the least, is not a good stimulus and a poor incentive for work, and in many cases the pupils under their charge have been enthused with a more earnest and a much more careful habit of study, and have worked hard under the earnest and love-inspiring efforts of an earnest and faithful teacher. While in some of our schools the discipline has not been all that we might wish, in others we have been gratified to see that out of chaos has come order, out of a lack of restraint has come a good restraining influence, and in some cases this discipline has been almost unconsciously brought about, and the pupils have been taught to almost govern themselves, which is the most wholesome discipline of any.

We notice that some of our teachers are realizing the importance of the best and most practical method of work by adopting a course which enables them almost entirely to lay aside the textbook in their actual teaching, to rely upon it only as a sort of reference book or prompter, not to be hampered in their recitation work by its use. Most of our teachers have attended or are graduates of some High school; only two, I think, have ever attended Normal school, so that we can hardly expect Normal ideas, when our teachers have not had the advantage of such a course of training. But we would whisper a word in the ear of our would-be teachers, graduates of the High school and others, to avail yourselves, if possible, of the advantages of a Normal course and training ere you begin a teacher's life.

PUPILS.

One hundred and eighty pupils have attended school the past year; twenty-five were over fifteen years, and four under five years of age. The attendance in some of the schools has been very good, it being over 90 per cent in three schools and over 80 per cent in two others. In some it has been rather small. The average attendance of all the schools, excepting the High school, for the year, has been 84 per cent. There are two hundred and seven tardy marks, aside from the High school; fifty-two of these are in one school, forty-two in another, one boy having thirty-three against his name. One school had none for one term, and one school had only one tardy mark for the year. In many cases it is not because of distance, for those who live the nearest have the most marks very often; but this is a matter which requires attention at the hands of the parents. There is another evil which should be remedied as far as possible; i. e., the irregularity of attendance of so many of our pupils after entering the schools, which is not caused by sickness, and the lack of promptness of many to enter the school when the term begins, waiting until the middle of the first week or until the second, third or fourth week of school, and, again, of leaving a week or two before school closes. It is hoped that the simple fact of calling the attention of the parents to these points may be sufficient to prevent the continuance of the same.

VISITS.

There is a great lack of visiting in the schools. While in some schools many visits have been made, they have been made almost exclusively either by non-residents of the town, by teachers and school officers, or by young people of the town. But a very few parents have visited the schools during the year, but of the whole number of visits, some 425, only 85 have, I think, been made by parents, only 40 of the parents have visited at all; a few have visited several times. There is a great mistake made here,

by parents who do not visit the schools, both in regard to the children and teacher. For when parents visit the schools it shows not only an interest in their children, but it pleases and encourages them, while it also encourages the teachers in their work; and are you aware of this fact, parents, that it will prevent a great deal of misunderstanding between teacher and parent? Hence, by your presence occasionally in the schoolroom, you will perform a double duty, at least; you will help and encourage your children, and stimulate and assist the teacher, in her somewhat difficult task, to do better work. And is it not certainly an all-important and befitting duty for parents to become well acquainted with, and to know those to whom they entrust the care and the training, and not only the present, but the future welfare of their children? Let me, then, impress upon you, parents, the duty of visiting the schools, in such a manner as to arouse you to a sense of that duty, and enable you to refrain no longer from the performance of it. Do not consider it an unpleasant and burdensome task, or one which it is impossible for you to perform on account of the manifold duties which are ever pressing upon you, but rather consider it an obligatory duty, and place it in that class of duties which *should* and *must* be performed; a cheerful duty, one which you owe both to child and teacher, and by the performance of such duty, manifesting an all-absorbing interest in the welfare, education and training of your children, and your sympathy and co-operation with the teacher, in her great and noble work.

HIGH SCHOOL.

MR. HILL WILLIAMS, TEACHER.

We are able to give only a partial report of this school, as it does not close until the last of March, and it being the middle of the term, at the time of making this report. There was a great lack of discipline in the school at the beginning of the year, and far from being in a healthy condition. The course of study which was arranged last year was not followed thoroughly, and not being arranged in the best manner to accomplish the most desirable work, the attempt to follow it has been very difficult and unsatisfactory in many respects. A change in the course is much needed, and it is hoped that a change will be made, such as will best meet the demands of the school, and then follow such course. Mr. Williams came to this school without experience, but he has proved himself well qualified, and not only able to cope with, but to overcome, many of the difficulties with which he has had to contend. The character of the school, under his instructions, has steadily improved in regard to discipline, habits of study and recitation work. The discipline of the school has been quietly but persistently enforced, yet with but comparatively little effort. He has labored to have the pupils develop their reasoning facul-

ties and thinking powers in such a way as would lead them into a habit of more careful and systematic thought, and thus enable them, not only to have clear ideas, but to express them distinctly and with a greater degree of vivacity, and there has been a marked improvement in that direction. Reading has received marked attention, and there has been notable improvement in regard to clearness of utterance and forcibleness of expression. The pupils have generally manifested an interest in their work, and have been in sympathy with the teacher. There has been much irregularity of attendance, and it would seem much more than necessity would warrant. There is a fault somewhere, in regard to this matter, which should be corrected and obviated as far as possible.

We have been very much surprised to learn that this school has existed for nearly twenty years, and that no graduation exercises have ever been held since its formation. We have been strongly impressed with the importance and necessity of such exercises, and have felt regret that such has been the fact, as we have witnessed the perplexity of those who have been members of the school, when asked if they were graduates of some high school, and would get the answer that they did not know whether they were graduates or not, but they had attended the Mendon High school for four or six years. An effort will be made to graduate the first class at the close of the school year. The class will be small, and it being the first attempt in the existence of the school, and something new, we may not be able to make so good a showing as we would like, but we bespeak the interest, the attendance and the co-operation of the parents and friends of the school to aid us in our efforts, and enable us to make it a pleasant, profitable and creditable affair. Mr. Williams was educated in Mendon High school, and the Chicago University.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

MR. JAMES NICHOLS, TEACHER.

This school has been taught throughout the year by Mr. Nichols of Millville. Mr. Nichols was an experienced teacher, and came to this school at the beginning of the year, well recommended, and has proved himself an earnest, faithful and efficient teacher. This school needed a good disciplinarian, and it was fortunate in finding one. We have in this school another example of where the discipline has almost unconsciously crept in among the pupils, and where good order has been maintained in a firm but quiet manner. The teacher has had much hard work to perform in this school, but he has been enabled to do a good work, and he has gradually won, not only the obedience and respect of his pupils, but their hearty co-operation and esteem. The pupils merit much commendation for the work they have accomplished during the year. There has been great irregularity of attendance, which detracts much from the school, it being a great detri-

ment to the pupils, an injury to the school and taxes the teacher unnecessarily, as well as being a great annoyance. It is hoped some way may be devised to overcome this great evil. Most of the tardy marks stand against a few scholars. Mr. Nichols is a graduate of the Blackstone High school.

EAST SCHOOL.

SPRING TERM.—MISS JENNIE L. GOODRICH, TEACHER.

Miss Goodrich came to this school, having had quite an experience as teacher, having taught in Milford, Deerbrook and Sherborn; and is a graduate of the Milford High school. Miss Goodrich has a very pleasant manner in the school-room, winning the affection of her pupils and assisting her much in discipline. She was well qualified to teach, quite a good disciplinarian, and with, perhaps, a little more confidence in her own ability, would meet with better success as a teacher. The school did well under her instruction, but not being in very good health, prevented her from working as energetically as she otherwise would have done.

FALL AND WINTER TERMS.—MISS M. ELSIE HILL, TEACHER.

Miss Goodrich's ill-health compelled her to resign this school, and thus made a change necessary in the fall. Miss M. Elsie Hill, who had had an experience of one term in the West school, was transferred to this school to succeed Miss Goodrich. Miss Hill, being desirous of doing a good work in this school, has labored carefully, earnestly and conscientiously and has met with quite a good degree of success. The order has been good and she has won the good will of her pupils. Miss Hill having been sick the last of the term, has broken into the school somewhat. Miss Hill was educated in town.

SOUTH SCHOOL.

MRS. MARY A. BARROWS, TEACHER.

This school has been taught throughout the year by Mrs. Mary A. Barrows, as it has been for the last three years. She has had an experience of five years or more, having previously taught this school for two years, and having taught in town some five years. This school is small, under good discipline and in good condition generally. This teacher has attended Normal school. It is unfortunate that the town did not own this spot, and thus have prevented the felling of the stately pines, which afforded such fine shelter and play-ground in the summer season, and a nice protection from the chilly blasts of winter. This school has had good practical work in letter-writing. This school has only one tardy mark.

ALBEEVILLE.

MISS ANNIE W. GASKILL, TEACHER.

Miss Gaskill has taught this school during the year. She has previously taught in the West school two and a half years, and one year and a half in Rhode Island, hence coming to this school with four years' experience. Miss Gaskill has met with good success in teaching. She is a very good disciplinarian, has a natural aptitude for teaching, much originality in her ideas and system of teaching, and although she has not had a Normal training, she embodies many Normal ideas in her methods of teaching. A very unfortunate affair has occurred in connection with this school, near the close of the winter term, caused by the teacher's administering corporal punishment to a refractory boy, caused, in part by the encouragement of the parent to resist the teacher's authority and which has resulted in the interference of the parent with the teacher's authority, by taking sides against the teacher, by entering the school-room, committing a breach of the peace, attempting to break up the school, in defiance of the principles of law and order, and by making the matter a scandalous affair by persecuting and prosecuting the teacher, in spite of all efforts at reconciliation, calm reasoning and wise counsel. This is a matter of deep interest, of great and vital importance, not to this school alone, nor to this teacher alone, but to all the schools and to all the teachers in town, and not to this town alone, but to the adjoining towns as well, and to all the teachers and schools in those towns. Miss Gaskill has the fullest sympathy, not only of the community where she has taught, but of the community in general, in her trial.

WEST SCHOOL.

SPRING TERM.—MISS M. ELSIE HILL, TEACHER.

This school was Miss Hill's first experience in teaching. This is a very small and somewhat backward school. Miss Hill was anxious to do well and willing and ready to work. The school made a fair amount of progress under her instruction. She succeeded a teacher, with whom, as far as could be ascertained, neither scholars nor parents found any fault. It is often, at least, difficult, for a young and inexperienced teacher to follow such an one and be fully appreciated. Her discipline was quite good but she was crippled in her influence by a lack of co-operation on the part of some parents, and by an interference with her discipline, similar in spirit, only carried to a limited extent, to that which is too often exhibited, and which injures the reputation of a school and kills the influence for good of a teacher. In consequence of this feeling which crept into the school, but which was wholly uncalled for, it was deemed advisable to make a change in teachers, for the best good of the school.

FALL TERM.—MISS EVA A. RICH, TEACHER.

Miss Rich came from Blackstone, a graduate of the Blackstone High school last June, and had had no experience in teaching. She was interested in her school and worked to secure good results. Had her pupils been led to be more self-dependent, and to rely less on the teacher (a fault which is quite common with young teachers), her labors would have been less burdensome, and better results have been accomplished. Her discipline was quite good, and the parents seemed to co-operate better with her than with the previous teacher.

WINTER TERM.—MISS EVA A. RICH AND MISS H. JOSIE DAVIS, TEACHERS.

Miss Rich was engaged for the winter term, but after having taught four weeks she very unwisely and unceremoniously resigned to take the place of a teacher in East Blackstone where she received more wages. By her resignation the school was very much injured. It was a great mistake, her leaving the school in such a manner, when there was no real necessity for the same. The school was closed for one week, when Miss H. Josie Davis, also a graduate of the Blackstone High school and a member of the same class with Miss Rich, was engaged to take the school. It is but justice to Miss Davis to say but little in regard to her school, as she has taught only six weeks and only finishing a term of a few weeks, not much could be expected of her, and it would be only injustice to her to consider her efforts, under such circumstances, as a fair sample of her ability as a teacher. She has worked well, taught the pupils to be more self-reliant and bids fair to make a good teacher. This school is very small and there would be a decided advantage gained by closing it and transporting the pupils to Albeeville school.

NORTH SCHOOL.

MISS MARY L. ALDRICH, TEACHER.

Miss Aldrich has taught this school for four terms with very good success. She has attended the Rhode Island Normal school since leaving the Mendon High school, which she attended four years. Good order is maintained, the pupils are studious, and the school is in a good condition generally. There is considerable irregularity of attendance on the part of a few, which is a great drawback to the school and an evil which should be remedied. This is next to the largest school in town. Miss Aldrich has taught in Blackstone and Sutton with good success.

PRIMARY SCHOOL.

MISS MARY E. DUDLEY, TEACHER.

This is the largest school in town, having over forty scholars. Miss Dudley has taught this school the past year, with her usual success in teaching. This school has been taught by her for six

years with a marked degree of success. Her pleasant and genial manner in the schoolroom is well calculated to attract the little ones toward her and is very befitting in such a position. The school is over-crowded and her work is very arduous and trying, and in consequence of this she is unable to accomplish the work which needs to be done. But a good and thorough work has been accomplished by the faithful and earnest efforts of the teacher, notwithstanding the difficulties. The pupils are bright, active and eager to learn, which is very gratifying to an anxious teacher. The same degree of discipline is not to be expected, and perhaps is not desirable, in this school, as in the higher grades, yet a good degree of discipline should be maintained, except in a few minor points. Perhaps the discipline has been relaxed a little too much the last term, by the teacher's being misled, by misunderstanding the intent of the suggestions of the Superintendent. If so, the blame falls not upon the teacher. Quite a large class will enter the Grammar school next year, which will relieve the school and lessen the teacher's work, unless there are a large number to enter. The character and training of this class has been such as to make it a very desirable addition to the Grammar school, and a great loss to the Primary. A great amount of thorough, practical work has been done in this school. The older pupils have worked with a great deal of zest and energy, and they have acquired a habit of thinking in connection with their work, which some older pupils might do well to copy from them.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Names of pupils neither absent nor tardy.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

SPRING TERM.—Florence E. Snow.

FALL TERM.—Florence E. Snow, Ethel Williams, Emily S. Moores, Mary F. Staples, Freeman C. Lowell, Arthur V. Pond, Morton A. Holbrook.

WINTER TERM.—Florence E. Snow, Arthur V. Pond.

TWO TERMS.—Arthur V. Pond.

ONE YEAR.—Florence E. Snow.

EAST SCHOOL.

SPRING TERM.—John D. Bates, Willie A. Rockwood, George A. Rockwood.

FALL TERM.—Arthur B. Sprague, John D. Bates, Willie A. Rockwood, Waldo A. Rockwood, George A. Rockwood.

WINTER TERM.—Arthur V. Sprague, Willie A. Rockwood, George A. Rockwood, Waldo A. Rockwood.

TWO TERMS.—John D. Bates, Arthur V. Sprague, Waldo A. Rockwood.

TWO YEARS.—Willie A. Rockwood, George A. Rockwood.

SOUTH SCHOOL.

SPRING TERM.—Jessie E. Cook, Grace G. Cook, Lula E. Pickering, Ida M. Barrows, John Daniels, Willie Martin, Leon D. Moore, Harry J. Martin, Bennie I. Barrows.

FALL TERM.—Jessie E. Cook, Grace G. Cook, Lula E. Pickering, John Daniels, Willie Martin, Leon D. Moore, Harry J. Martin.

WINTER TERM.—Jessie E. Cook, Grace G. Cook, Willie Martin.

TWO TERMS.—Lula E. Pickering, John Daniels, Leon D. Moore, Harry J. Martin.

ONE YEAR.—Jessie E. Cook, Grace G. Cook, Willie Martin.

ALBEEVILLE SCHOOL.

SPRING TERM.—Hattie F. Albee, Estine Taft, Clair W. Freeman.

FALL TERM.—Hattie F. Albee.

WINTER TERM.—Hattie F. Albee, Estine Taft.

TWO TERMS.—Estine Taft.

TWO YEARS.—Hattie F. Albee.

WEST SCHOOL.

SPRING TERM.—Mary L. Wood, Waldo M. Thayer, Samuel W. Wood, Edwin M. Aldrich, William L. Aldrich.

FALL TERM.—Samuel W. Wood, Mary L. Wood, William Broughey.

TWO TERMS.—Mary L. Wood, Samuel W. Wood.

NORTH SCHOOL.

SPRING TERM.—Alice Quigley, Rosie Quigley.

FALL TERM.—Julia Byrne, Carrie Beal, Edith Bennett, Dora Davenport, Alice Quigley, Rosie Quigley, Arthur Beal, Otis Daffon, Dwight Davenport, Fred Davenport, Willie Mahaney.

WINTER TERM.—Dora Davenport, Alice Quigley, Ora Davenport, Willie Mahaney, Ernest Davenport.

TWO TERMS.—Rosie Quigley, Dora Davenport, Willie Mahaney.

ONE YEAR.—Alice Quigley.

PRIMARY SCHOOL.

SPRING TERM.—Nettie E. Nutter, Nathan Towne, Walter F. Towne, Archibald F. Gunn, Lewis S. Ford, F. Everett Darling, Harry Dixon, Jerry Driscoll.

FALL TERM.—Maggie L. Crawford, Norman E. Wheeler, Paul V. Wheeler, Mabel L. Wheeler, Nathan Towne, Walter F. Towne, Jessie Rhodes, Clara W. Pond, Nettie E. Nutter, Sabrey N. Moores, Clarence H. Moores, Edith I. Gaskill, Lewis S. Ford, Jerry Driscoll, F. Everett Darling, Harry Dixon, William Crawford, H. Fred Crawford, Edward L. Cook.

WINTER TERM.—Nathan Towne, Walter F. Towne, Oliver S. Moores, Clarence H. Moores, F. Everett Darling, Harry Dixon, H. Fred Crawford.

TWO TERMS.—Nettie E. Nutter, Lewis S. Ford, Jerry Driscoll, Clarence H. Moores, H. Fred Crawford.

ONE YEAR.—Nathan Towne, Walter F. Towne, Harry Dixon.

TWO YEARS.—F. Everett Darling.

Bennie I. Barrows, aged 4-5 years, has missed only seven days during the year. Harry J. Martin and John Daniels have each missed only one day during the year. Ida M. Barrows has missed only two days, and Waldo M. Thayer and Estine Taft two days each. Jerry Driscoll has attended five successive terms without being absent or tardy.

We are pleased to be able to present you with so favorable a report of our schools, and in closing our report, we would express our thanks to all who have in any way assisted us in our efforts during the year, and who have aided us in making out our report.

Respectfully submitted,

C. D. ALBRO, M. D.,
Superintendent of Schools.

TOWN WARRANT.

WORCESTER SS.—To the Constable of the Town of Mendon,
in the County of Worcester, GREETING :

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Mendon qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall, in said Mendon, on Monday, the fifth day of March, next, punctually at ten o'clock, A. M., to act on the following articles viz.:—

Article 1. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.

Article 2. To hear the reports of the several town officers and committees, and act thereon.

Article 3. To choose all necessary town officers for the year ensuing.

Article 4. To raise such sums of money as are necessary to defray town charges, and make appropriations of the same.

Article 5. To determine the manner of repairing the roads and bridges in said town the year ensuing.

Article 6. To see if the town will require the School Committee annually to appoint a Superintendent of Schools.

Article 7. To see if the town will vote to accept the list of jurors reported by the Selectmen, or make any alterations in the same.

Article 8. To see what measures, if any, the town will adopt to secure the speedy collection of taxes.

Article 9. To see if the town will vote to continue the High School.

Article 10. To see if the town will authorize the Treasurer to hire money to pay current expenses for the municipal year

commencing March 5th, 1888, in anticipation of the collection of the taxes.

Article 11. To see what action the town will take as to its indebtedness on bonds outstanding.

Article 12. To bring in their ballots "Yes" or "No" in answer to the question, "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?"

Article 13. To see if the town will continue communication by telephone with Milford, as security against destruction by fire, or act in relation thereto.

Article 14. To see if the town will vote to purchase the Methodist Episcopal church property on Main street, enlarge and repair the building, and purchase or take land adjoining, all for use as a Town Hall or schoolhouse, or act in any manner upon the subject matter of this article.

Article 15. To see if the town will vote to alter or repair the Town Hall without or within, or both, for further use as a Town Hall, or to fit the same for use as a school room or school-rooms, or otherwise act in relation to said Town Hall.

Article 16. To see if the town will vote to select a site and build a new schoolhouse, or alter or improve the present rooms in the center village or build an addition thereto, or otherwise act in relation to providing better school accommodations.

Article 17. To see what amount of money, if any, the town will vote to raise and appropriate for conveying pupils to and from the public schools, the same to be expended by the school committee in their discretion.

Article 18. To see if the town will re-consider its former vote or votes in regard to closing the Town Hall at 12 o'clock, midnight, and authorize the Selectmen to instruct the janitor to extend the time of closing as in his judgment he may think best, but not to be later than 2 o'clock A. M., or act in any way in regard to opening and closing said Hall.

Article 19. To see if the town will establish a new schedule of prices to be charged for the use of the Town Hall.

Article 20. To see if the town will vote to buy or hire a stone-crusher, or act in any way in relation to securing the use of a stone-crusher.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the following places in said town, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting, viz: At the post-office, and on the door of the schoolhouse in Albeeville, and at the post-office at South Milford.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Selectmen or Town Clerk, before the time of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands at Mendon, this twenty-fourth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight.

GUSTAVUS B. WILLIAMS,	} Selectmen of Mendon.
ALBERT W. GASKILL,	
LIBERTY FREEMAN,	

A true copy. Attest:

Constable of Mendon.

